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THE CRISIS

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A RECORD OF THE DARKER RACES

Editor: James W. Ivy
Editorial Advisory Board: Lewis S. Gannett, Arthur B. Spingarn,
Sterling A. Brown, Carl Murphy

Vol. 65, No. 8

Whole Number 534

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October, 1958

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THE CRISIS



Harry L. Cox

NAACP EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ROY WILKINS beams as he accepts a \$10,000 check for the Association from Mrs. Mattie Dickson, an 83-year-old retired resident of Oakland, California. When she presented the check in San Francisco on September 4, Mrs. Dickson said she was making the gift in "God's name to fight against the disgraceful abuse of American democracy." Mr. Wilkins said he could not recall any single gift to the NAACP from an individual as large as Mrs. Dickson's.



WHEN 9-year-old Karen Bozeman of Akron, Ohio, took out her NAACP junior life membership on June 14, she made the Bozeman family one hundred per cent NAACP life members. From L, Dr. Wilfred B. Bozeman, Jr., president of the Akron branch; Mrs. Marguerite Belafonte, national chairman NAACP freedom fund; and Dr. Eleanor Bozeman, little Karen's mother.

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Withholding of liberty and opportunity from
Negroes inevitably shrinks the freedom of
all Americans

Dixie Challenge to Democracy*

By Roy Wilkins

I APPRECIATE the opportunity extended to me by your officers and program committee to bring greetings from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to our many friends and co-workers, the members of the National Bar Association and the delegates to this convention. I bring also the greetings of Thurgood Marshall and his regret that he cannot be with you because of the personal attention he has been required to give to the fast-moving developments in the Little Rock school desegregation case.

In the years since the end of World War II, international and domestic events have brought crisis after crisis so that nearly any convention in session anywhere could lay fair claim to meeting in a time of crisis.

Your session this week is no exception. A crisis exists in the on-going struggle of Negro American citizens to establish and enjoy their constitutional rights. At the same time a crisis exists in the longstanding debate on the division between federal and state powers in a federation of states, and the scope of the federal courts in the determination of the lines of demarcation.

The abridgement or denial of the constitutional rights of Negro citizens is an old story to members of this convention. But I suggest that it is only since the 1954 Supreme Court decision in the school segregation cases that the plight of the Negro citizen in the area of civil rights has been brought so graphically to the attention of great numbers of Americans.

These Americans asked in 1955, for example, why there were no Negroes on the jury in the Emmett Till murder trial. The answer was that jurors, under Mississippi law, had to be registered voters and that

* The address of NAACP executive secretary, Roy Wilkins, to the convention of the National Bar Association, Chicago, Illinois, August 28, 1958.

not since Reconstruction days had a Negro been permitted to register in that county. This in turn led to the revelation that out of Mississippi's 986,000 Negro population, only about 8,000 were permitted to register for the August, 1955, primary election.

The denial of the right to register and vote in Mississippi and other southern states has resulted in only 25 per cent of southern Negro eligibles being enrolled as against a southern white average of 60 per cent.

When these facts are known, it becomes easy to understand why 196 special laws could have been enacted in southern state legislatures designed specifically to circumvent or nullify the 1954 decision of the Supreme Court. Some of these laws also aim at the destruction of the NAACP. Among them are provisions which would hamper, if not prevent completely, the practice of civil rights law by Negro or white attorneys.

SHACKLED POLITICALLY

Under these statutes, Negro citizens, already disarmed politically through disfranchisement, would be shorn of legal assistance in the pursuit of their rights in the courts. In most of the southern states colored people have little or no voice in the choosing of state legislators or in the election of governors and United States Senators. Thus they can be—and are—ignored and insulted with impunity. They receive no attention except at election time when they are cast in the role of "bogey men."

The South remains, in this mid-century period, the only region of

our nation where democratic decency is at such a low ebb that candidates for public office openly trade on the adolescent level of racial, religious, and color bigotry. Tolerance of this vicious nonsense has resulted, as it does with all pampered children, in their assumption of an importance that neither their intelligence nor their morality warrants.

Thus we are treated to the spectacle of an impudent ignoramus sending messages to the United States Supreme Court in press releases and casting personal aspersions upon the President of the United States, aspersions which are the reward for the President's treating with this grinning smart aleck as though he were a responsible public official.

Not content with their hamstringing operations on the local and state levels, the Dixiecrats have moved in the Congress to restrict the jurisdiction of the United States Supreme Court and to prevent its interference with the "way of life" the South has devised for the Negro.

It was only last week, by the slight margin of one vote, that the Senate defeated a states' rights bill which already had passed the House. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Howard Smith of Virginia, would have wrecked our whole system of Federal jurisdiction, not merely in the civil rights field, but in other areas as well.

The day before this hair-margin victory the Senate had voted 49-41 to table another Court-curbing bill, one provision of which would have made easy the exclusion of civil rights attorneys from state bars. It provided that the Supreme Court

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might not review the relevancy of questions put to prospective members of the bar by state examiners.

So, last week while we were reading the succession of headlines on the latest from Little Rock, a little band of skillful men in the United States Senate almost snatched from the Little Rock plaintiffs—and from the entire Negro population—certain channels of appeal to the Supreme Court.

COLOR LINE JUSTICE

It is not easy, of course, for the average person to recognize the danger and the drama in a quietly technical situation such as the Senate action. It is much easier for the public to recognize danger in terms of the fortunes of individuals. There is, I regret to say, no dearth of examples in this category.

Today the nation is discussing the incredible case of Jimmy Wilson, convicted in Alabama of stealing \$1.95 and sentenced to death. Handyman Wilson drew his death sentence upon the rambling testimony of a white woman of 75 who swore that Wilson also had attempted to rape her. The prosecutor, however, did not charge him with attempted rape, but with robbery, which in Alabama is punishable by death. The state has had this statute for 31 years, but in that time has executed only four men—all Negroes—for robbery.

As Georgia did nearly forty years ago in the case of *Frank v. Mangum*, Alabama is contending that Wilson did have a trial. One of the white lawyers appointed to "defend" him gave an almost unbelievable interview by telephone to a Toronto news-

paper in which he asserted that Wilson should have been lynched, and was "lucky" to have been given a trial. The theory that a trial satisfies the constitutional requirement for due process, upheld by the Supreme Court in the Frank case, was reversed by NAACP lawyers in a high court case in 1923, *Moore v. Dempsey*, arising out of the Elaine, Arkansas, riot of cotton farmers.

Spokesmen for the segregationists have been preaching that much progress was being made in the South and would have continued except that the 1954 Supreme Court decision set everything back. Well, in the Wilson case we have a perfect demonstration that Alabama justice today is the same as it was forty years ago. We have also a strikingly tragic illustration of how curbs on the Supreme Court would throw Negro litigants to the tender mercy of state courts, without a chance to appeal future Jimmy Wilson cases to federal courts.

Over in Water Valley, Miss., this summer a sheriff was found "not guilty" of a charge that he had beaten to death a Negro prisoner with a blackjack, despite the fact that two white persons testified as eyewitnesses. The acquitted sheriff promptly announced that now he could go back and "beat up some more niggers." His trial was attended by a number of sheriffs from surrounding counties who wanted to give him moral support and to express by their presence their outrage at the questioning of the time-honored right to blackjack Negroes.

Down in Dawson, Ga., a policeman who had shot two Negroes to death last spring went scot free when

a federal grand jury in Georgia failed to return an indictment sought by the Department of Justice. This is a further illustration of the kind of "justice" that is the lot of the Negro under the states' rights theory of government.

RESTRAINT URGED ON COURT

Comes now the Conference of Chief Justices with its recommendation that the United States Supreme Court exercise "self-restraint" in its decisions involving federal-state relationships. The language of Point 5 of the resolution is, first, a thinly-disguised rebuke, bordering on the insulting, to the Supreme Court. It is, as well, an implication that in certain of these federal-state relationships the Constitution inflexibly "prescribes and permits," whereas the majority of the Court is wont at times to rule as it may "deem desirable or undesirable."

Point 5 would have the majority of the Court restrain itself in such instances "to the end that our system of federalism may continue to function with and through the preservation of local self-government."

The Conference of Justices is hinting strongly that in the segregation cases, for example, the Court ruled contrary to what the Constitution "prescribes and permits." This is precisely the contention of the segregationists, including Orval Faubus, the Ku Klux Klan, the White Citizens Councils, the lily-white state legislatures, the killer-sheriffs and the lyncher-lawyers. This distinguished company wants no interference by federal authorities with local self-government, regardless of how savage it may be, or how widely at

variance with even ordinary concepts of justice.

The ministrations of local self-government to a Negro citizen in many sections of the South today may be likened to the slugging of a handcuffed man.

Disfranchisement guarantees unhampered and unlimited state action against him, whether it be administrative, judicial, or legislative, with no fear that retaliation will occur at the ballot box. The same disfranchisement which permits unrestrained punitive action on the state level, also endows tainted representatives in the Congress with the opportunity to enact or to defeat legislation which would affect the hunting of the sitting ducks on the home preserves.

Apparently this is the type of "local self-government" the Conference of Chief Justices warned the Supreme Court not to disturb. If the Supreme Court is to be deprived, either by legislation or by unseemly counsel, of its function of interpreting the Constitution in this vital area of individual freedom, our whole system of constitutional government — the entire concept of a United States of America — is endangered. Who will interpret the Constitution — each state or each judge?

If we are now to subscribe to the tenet that the individual citizen of our federal union has no rights as such, but is completely the creature of the several states, then democratic federalism will have foundered on the very evil it was established to avoid: the tyranny of the unfettered state.

It would be an easy simplification to view the present moves and counter-moves as evidence that the South

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wants still to win the war she lost in 1865. In a sense this is true. The southern spokesmen, at least, have no shame in proclaiming their adherence to the shabby doctrine of white supremacy. They call up cracked clichés and revel in old, forgotten oratory as they offer local government snake oil as a cure for constitutional cancer. They do not recognize a constitutional malady; to them it is a relatively minor problem of "keeping the Negro in his place."

AGAIN, "GO SLOWLY"

So, faced with new court rulings on the constitutional rights of Negroes as citizens, they begin their rebuttal and their defense of the old order by saying "You are going too fast; you are pushing too hard; give us more time; these changes in civil rights should go slowly."

Yesterday [August 27] at his press conference President Eisenhower conceded in answer to a question that he might have said to certain of his friends privately that he thought integration of schools might proceed more slowly.

This is, as I have already stated in Washington, an incredible position on the part of the President. The snail-like pace of integration to date must have been kept from him by his advisers. The record is there for ready inspection and judgment.

Next door to the White House in the State of Virginia not a single school has been integrated in the four and a half years since the Supreme Court decision. Does Mr. Eisenhower think Virginia should move more slowly than this?

In six other states, Alabama,

Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina, not a single school has been integrated. Is this too much speed for the President?

In Tennessee only three communities have made a start and in one of these, Nashville, the plan called for one grade to be integrated each year. It will be 1969 before twelve grades are integrated. Would the President have Nashville proceed more slowly than this?

In North Carolina there is only token integration in three cities and in one of them only one Negro child in the entire city has been admitted to a hitherto white school. Is this an example of the pace which the President says must be slowed down?

In Little Rock only nine Negro children were involved out of the entire city, nine among 2,000 white children at Central High School. Is this pace too fast in the President's opinion?

After four and a half years it is estimated that the percentage of integration in Arkansas is 4 per cent, that is, roughly 1 per cent a year. Even if the present pace is maintained, 100 years will be required. But the President thinks the present pace of integration should be slowed down. Would he give Arkansas 200 years, or only 150?

The truth of the matter is that integration has never started in seven states; it is on a purely token basis in three states: Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee. If the present pace were slowed down, as the President suggests, we would be standing still; indeed, we might be considered to be going backward.

Surely when he receives official reports on integration, the President will want to revise his opinion, not to urge overnight action, but to urge reasonable and steady progress in accord with the law. He owes this to two million Negro children still in segregated schools who are being denied their constitutional rights and are being crippled each passing day as they seek to prepare themselves for life. Under his suggestion few Negro children born today in the Deep South will enjoy the rights awarded them back in 1954 by the United States Supreme Court.

TALK OF VIOLENCE

And, in addition to the talk about slowing down, there is the talk of violence. No one in this segregation crisis has talked of violence except the segregationists. Orval Faubus, in a state address to his legislature, talked of violence. A year ago he incited to violence by predicting it. While he speaks in oily tones of preserving law and order, he slyly suggests violence.

The sheriffs use their guns and blackjacks. The preachers of hate spit upon our children. Grown men and women scream at them as they go to and from school. They throw bombs at our homes and churches. They toss bricks through our windows. They overturn our automobiles. They threaten our families in their homes.

They hint at violence. They preach violence. They inspire violence. They do violence.

The majesty of a sovereign state convokes itself in its capitol—and to what high purpose? Why, to "get the Negroes." It is open season on

Negroes and Negro citizenship rights. Millions of white youth are being taught by the example of their leading elders that there is no law as far as Negroes are concerned. Just shoot—from any handy hip or from any governor's mansion.

Is it any wonder that we Negroes tend to think of our crisis in terms of race? Soothing observers and commentators say we should not be bitter. Of course, we are bitter! We are human, not fish.

The miracle is that we have not adopted violence in retaliation. In my newspaper the other day was a headline about bombings in Algeria. It was in the column next to a story from Little Rock. Over in Cyprus a bomb was found under the bed of the governor. Algerians are setting fires, blowing up oil tanks, and doing all manner of violence as they seek freedom.

Thus far American Negroes have not followed the example of all other oppressed peoples in history. They have been patient and long-suffering, but the stubborn refusal of certain southern elements to recognize the century in which we live could finally stimulate a type of reaction that would be tragic, no matter how educationally salutary it might prove to be.

CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

But, the problem is not simply the Deep South vs. the Negro. The problem posed is that of the shape and direction of the American constitutional system. As we consider the state of the world today, its precarious balances, its alignments and re-alignments, its power poles, and the contest for old as well as newly-

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emerging nations, it may even be hazarded that the problem could well become the survival of America as a free nation.

It would appear, then, that when the Negro legal profession, the NAACP and other groups press for the removal of the barriers of segregation and discrimination, they are working not merely for a racial segment of the population, but for the welfare of the nation itself.

The task is a huge one. Needless to say, try as he will, and faithful to the mission as he may be, the Negro cannot accomplish it alone. Nor should he be expected to do so. Those who ask, challengingly or mockingly, "What does the Negro plan to do now that so and so has happened?" are forgetting the essential nature of the struggle to refine, perfect and preserve the American branch of Western democratic living.

It may be a cliché, but it is also a truism that freedom is indivisible. In the measure that our white fellow

citizens withhold liberty and opportunity from us, or give consent to that withholding, in that measure they shrink their own freedom and subvert the verities of the national ideal. President Eisenhower served us all well, white and colored Americans alike, when on August 20 he pledged the utmost in support for the orders of the courts, regardless of his undisclosed personal opinion. In the same context Orval Faubus is as much a threat to white Americans as he is to any Negro child in Arkansas.

The contest now raging around the constitutional rights of Negro Americans may seem to us, because of peculiar racial pains, to be an aftermath of Appomattox; in reality, it is a struggle for the life of the United States. Until it is resolved in justice our country will proceed into the crucial second half of this century without the full spiritual and physical strength it so desperately needs. It is our patriotic, as well as our racial, duty to help her to this realization.

Criterion Club, Providence, R. I., makes \$100 initial payment on NAACP life membership to William Newson, president Providence branch. Club president Mrs. Annie Banks presents check in presence (from L) of Beatrice Coleman, branch secretary, and Mrs. Robert Walker, chairman special committee which raised initial payment.





Individuals and representatives of organizations who attended a dinner-meeting of the Miami, Florida, branch on June 7. Clarence Mitchell (seated L), director of the NAACP Washington bureau, was the speaker for the occasion.

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Mrs. Alma Felton, teacher, makes initial payment on the first NAACP life membership sold to an individual in Alexandria, Virginia. Publicity director Fred Galloway of the local branch receives payment.

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Some of the 340 youth and college delegates who attended an NAACP leadership training conference held in Boston, Massachusetts, on April 12, 1958.

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Jackie Robinson pre-
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membership plaques
to O. P. Chiles (R) and
Robert H. Miller, gen-
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Dr. I. A. Watson, Jr.,
(L), membership chair-
man Memphis, Tenn.,
branch, and Mrs. Max-
ine Smith (2nd from
R) present awards to
Atty. H. T. Lockard,
Mrs. Marjorie McFer-
ren, and Jessie Turner
for outstanding branch
contributions.



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Among active workers
in the Johnstown,
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topher C. Quarles, Sr.,
Mrs. Jane Hamlet,
branch membership
secretary, and Arthur
E. Carter, membership
chairman.





Russ Carter

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIPS—North Jersey boys and girls have secured more than 100 junior memberships in the Association. From L, Charles Johnson, Alan Pinderhughes, Barbara Barnes, and John Hill (at R) are presenting membership checks to Mrs. Madaline Williams. The children, representing all groups of North Jersey, belong to Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

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An examination of illegal arrests and detention in Detroit, which often involve Negroes

Arrests Without Warrant

By Harold Norris

IN OUR rightful concern over the present state of civil rights and liberties inadequate attention is being paid to a day-to-day practice that threatens the liberties of large numbers of people. I refer to the encrusted practice of many metropolitan police departments of making mass arrests for the purpose of investigation only and of detaining citizens without warrants.

A significant case in point, typical of many if not most metropolitan communities, is the situation prevailing in the City of Detroit. Let us survey the facts as compiled by the Michigan Bar Association and the Detroit Police Department.

A large number of arrests, constituting over one-third of all non-traffic arrests made by the Detroit

police department in any one year, are made without warrants being issued; that is, the arrest is made for investigation only. Warrants are never issued or even sought in a very large number of these cases. Out of a total of 67,301 arrests in the year 1956, no warrant was ever issued in 26,696 of these cases. An arrest is defined in law as "taking a person into custody so that he may be held to answer for a crime."

The present practice of many courts in habeas corpus proceedings of granting the police department adjournment of the hearing on the writ for 24, 48, and 72 hours to permit the holding of the arrested person for continued investigation has sapped the ancient writ of *habeas corpus* of much of its vitality as a protection against unlawful deprivation of freedom.

The State Bar of Michigan found in 1948 that "it is the settled policy of the Police Department for the City of Detroit to make arrests and detain citizens "for investigation"

HAROLD NORRIS, a member of the Michigan bar, is a practicing attorney in the city of Detroit who has been involved in many cases involving constitutional liberties.

without warrants." The Bar condemned the "practice of arresting and detaining persons merely for investigation and without probable cause" and urged that statutes requiring the swearing in of witnesses and a full explanation of the arrest and detention on the hearing of the writ of habeas corpus "be fully followed."

The annual statistical reports of the Detroit police department indicates that the settled practice of arresting and detaining citizens without warrant and without probable cause persists with no appreciable change. In the nine-year period of 1947 through 1956 there were each year approximately 60,000 arrests with over 20,000 arrests for investigation. The ratio of investigative arrests to total arrests continues unchanged. Donald S. Leonard, a former police commissioner in Detroit, has stated this is a "weak spot" in police procedure.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL PRACTICES

The consequence of these practices is that thousands of citizens spend thousand of days in jail illegally and with little opportunity for release because of the writ-hearing adjournment practice. Other thousands of citizens are forced by the same practice to pay out thousands of dollars in bond money, as a kind of ransom, to regain the freedom of which they have been wrongfully deprived.

What makes this deprivation of fundamental liberty the more insidious is that it seems to have no basis in law; in fact, is in direct contravention to both the letter and the spirit of the law.

The United States and Michigan constitutions, providing that no person shall be deprived of his liberties without due process of law, have been interpreted in relation to arrests by the following rule:

It has been settled for centuries . . . that except in cases of reasonable belief of treason or felony, or breach of the peace committed in the presence of an officer, there is no due process of law without a warrant issued by a Court or Magistrate upon a proper showing or finding."

Mere general suspicion that, perhaps, a crime is being committed by defendants does not justify an arrest.

Although the courts have been urged to relax this constitutional protection; they have recognized that in a democratic society, in sharp contradistinction to a police state, this fundamental immunity to arbitrary arrest has been guaranteed by the federal and state constitutions. State statutes, as well as decisions, do not permit arrests for investigation only or on suspicion. It would appear, from constitutional and statutory provisions, that upon the hearing of a writ of habeas corpus and the production of the prisoner in court it becomes the duty of the court to examine immediately into the facts of the arrest and detention and to dispose of the case accordingly.

Under the procedure at present followed, in many if not most instances, the court fails to make the required inquiry into the legality of the arrest and detention. The courts appear to have abdicated this judicial function to the police officer whose name appears on the return. The officer is usually asked no more

than what the prisoner is being held for (e.g. "investigation of grand larceny") and how much time the police want for further investigation. The only questions receiving more than the most cursory attention concern the length of the adjournment to be granted and the amount of the bond, if any.

NO ADEQUATE CAUSE

Under this procedure a person may be, and frequently is, arrested on the barest suspicion, held for investigation, fingerprinted, and put through the "show-up process" and thereby deprived of his liberty for a period of several days, despite the fact that the arrest and detention are without adequate cause and are therefore illegal. The possibility of false accusation, false identification, and miscarriage of justice is increased under these circumstances. Such a procedure is contrary to the Anglo-Saxon concept of personal liberty upon which the American system of government and law enforcement is theoretically based. It is an illegal expedient for the convenience of the police, who are thereby encouraged to arrest without adequate reason, to investigate *after* arrest instead of before, and to become generally "sloppy" and apathetic in their concern for fundamental personal rights. The practice becomes one of arrest first and then make out a case, if possible—if not, well, what difference does a few days in jail make, especially if the person's racial or economic status makes opposition to these practices impossible? Many of the victims of such abuses are friendless, unlettered persons, unaware of their rights,

and unable to challenge those who have violated those rights. Many thus believe that the courts, by permitting this policy to continue, leave to the police the judicial function of determining the legality of the detention, at least for the period of adjournment of the writ generally granted on mere request of the police officer.

Moreover, many students of the problem believe that where illegal arrest and detention are found in volume there is likewise a greater propensity to the use of threats, protracted questioning, the third degree, physical brutality, the practice of holding persons incommunicado, the obtaining of involuntary confessions and the deprivation of the right to counsel and advice as to constitutional rights. The report of the National Commission on Law Observation and Enforcement, the "Wickersham Report," found in 1931 that "prolonged illegal detention is a common practice. The law requires prompt production of a prisoner before a magistrate. In a large majority of cities we have investigated this rule is constantly violated." In 1947, President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights stated that civil rights violations at times appear in "unwarranted arrests, unduly prolonged detention before arraignment and abuse of search and seizure power. . . . The frequency with which such cases arise is proof that improper police conduct is still widespread." The attitude of the police, of lawless enforcement of the law, in regard to arrest and detention, does not win respect for constitutional rights or processes.

Illegal arrest and detention violate

the underlying principle in our enforcement of the criminal law. Ours is the accusatorial as opposed to the inquisitorial system. This has been the characteristic of Anglo-American criminal justice since it freed itself through long struggles from the arbitrary and excessive power of English kings and from practices borrowed by the Star Chamber from the continent. Under our system the police carry the burden of proving their case not by interrogation of the accused, even under judicial safeguards, but by evidence independently secured through skillful examination and investigation. The requirement of specific charges, their proof beyond a reasonable doubt, the protection of the accused from pressure and involuntary confession, the right to a prompt hearing before a magistrate, the right to assistance of counsel, the duty to advise an accused of his constitutional rights—these are the characteristics of the accusatorial system and its demands.

The right to security of the person includes immunity from arbitrary arrest and detention. It is thus the duty of the police to investigate first and then arrest, and not to make arrests for the purpose of investigation. It might be argued that police officers are overworked, that their habits, practices and procedures are induced by situations beyond the control of the individual officer. A great deal of constructive study should be undertaken in this area. But a people conscious of the components of liberty should not be led to accept the development of procedures that reflect a steady corrosion of the basic right to security of the person. Judge Frankfurter has re-

marked that "the history of American freedom is, in no small measure, the history of procedure." The lawful procedure regarding arrests, detention and the writ of habeas corpus is intrinsic to the basic liberty of the individual. These procedures and safeguards are the more imperative when increasingly the individual citizen finds himself at a serious disadvantage when confronted by the overwhelming power, prestige and resources of the state.

PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

The courts have observed that procedural rights characteristic of Anglo-American law are based upon the principle not only that innocent and guilty alike are necessarily entitled to share the protections, but that fairness to the innocent will inevitably result in some of the guilty escaping punishment. However, society can best protect itself against anti-social conduct by the observance of procedures that promote respect and confidence in law and law enforcement. This confidence is more strategic to the security of a democratic society protecting the rights of all than is the concern over those whose anti-social acts go unpunished for injuries to the person and property of some. The late Justice Brandeis observed:

Decency, security and liberty alike demand that government officials shall be subjected to the same rules of conduct that are commands to the citizens. In a government of laws, existence of the government will be imperiled if it fails to observe the law scrupulously. Our government is the potent, the omnipresent teacher. For good or ill, it teaches the whole people by its example. Crime is contagious. If the gov-

ernment becomes a law-breaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself; it invites anarchy. To declare that in the administration of the criminal law the end justifies the means—to declare that the Government may commit crimes in order to secure the conviction of a private criminal . . . would bring terrible retribution. Against that pernicious doctrine this Court should resolutely set its face.

An improvement in the present practices of many metropolitan communities in relation to arrests and detention without warrant could be implemented if at least the following recommendations were increasingly acted upon. First, the policies of police departments of arresting first and then investigating should be changed to a policy of investigating first and arresting later, if the facts justify an arrest. Second, upon the hearing on a writ of habeas corpus and the production of the prisoner in court, the court should require a setting forth by the detaining officer, under oath and on the record, of the facts in summary form upon which he seeks to justify the challenged detention. A member of the prosecutor's staff should be present at such hearing and if the facts elicited do not legally justify the detention, the prisoner should be released forthwith, and the prosecutor should so recommend. Third, a night court should be established, where not in existence, which would materially assist in securing compliance with constitutional and statutory law regarding writ of habeas corpus, thus reducing the deprivation

of liberty of many persons forced to stay in jail overnight and over entire week-ends, and reducing the volume of arrests for investigation only and without probable cause.

The American Bar Association has recently shifted from the planning stage to the operating stage on a five-year, nation-wide study of the administration of criminal justice. Assisted by a grant from the Ford Foundation, and under the chairmanship of General William J. Donovan, selected to replace Justice Jackson after the latter's untimely death, pilot studies are being conducted in Kansas, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Attention is to be focused on four major areas of our criminal justice system: the police function, the prosecution and defense of crimes, the criminal courts and probation, sentence and parole. An objective and "undistorted picture of actual law enforcement problems, revealing the strengths as well as the weaknesses of existing criminal procedures" as a basis for remedial measures to protect both society and the individual is being sought. While many civil libertarians have qualified enthusiasm for the contributions of the American Bar Association in the field of civil liberties, it is to be hoped that its study will help to narrow the gap between the conduct of many metropolitan law enforcement agencies, and the requirements of the law as to habeas corpus, detention and arrest. Affirmative help from any quarter in this large neglected area of civil liberties deserves public approbation.



TABLE 1.—ARRESTS IN DETROIT FOR TEN YEAR PERIOD, BY YEAR, 1947 THROUGH 1956*

| Arrests | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 |
| ARRESTS RESULTING IN PROSECUTION (TAKEN TO COURT) | 26,577 | 24,140 | 30,074 | 26,939 | 27,464 | 28,145 | 28,124 | 28,386 | 28,732 | 27,396 |
| ARRESTS ON FORMAL CHARGE-DISMISSED BY POLICE | 2,452 | 3,593 | 2,529 | 3,685 | 4,129 | 3,985 | 3,943 | 4,362 | 4,620 | 4,608 |
| MISCELLANEOUS ARRESTS Turned over to Federal, State, or County Authorities, Circuit Court, Juvenile Dept., Probation Dept., Discharged on Writ of Habeas Corpus | 1,618 | 1,837 | 2,490 | 2,415 | 2,927 | 2,717 | 2,683 | 2,818 | 2,720 | 2,736 |
| ARRESTS FOR INVESTIGATION | 18,110 | 20,169 | 22,823 | 23,092 | 21,152 | 18,917 | 22,437 | 23,180 | 22,477 | 26,696 |
| ARRESTS FOR "DRUNK GOLDEN-RULE" | 13,600 | 14,162 | 13,625 | 12,187 | 9,303 | 8,064 | 8,592 | 7,249 | 6,626 | 5,865 |
| TOTAL ARRESTS | 62,357 | 63,901 | 71,541 | 68,318 | 65,975 | 60,827 | 65,779 | 65,995 | 64,814 | 67,301 |

* These data do not include arrests for violation of road and driving laws, parking violations, or other traffic or motor vehicles laws, but do include arrests for driving while intoxicated. These data do not include traffic ordinance violations or ordinance violations other than traffic.

• This report of the Detroit branch amplifies Mr. Norris's article on illegal arrests in Detroit

Police Brutality Complaints Reported to the Detroit Branch

IN August of 1957 the Detroit branch began an analysis of police brutality complaints which were reported to the branch office in the period January 1, 1956, to July 30, 1957. The analysis covered a total of 103 cases and was completed in October, 1957.

The principal objective of the NAACP in making this study was to illuminate some of the basic problems in the area of police-community relations and to find what other common factors that might emerge. The results, it was felt, could be used in a further effort to inform the public and the appropriate public officials on the extent of the problem of police brutality in the community and on some of the factors contributing to it. Such information should also be helpful in bringing about some of the desired corrective measures in police methods and a better climate of goodwill between law en-

forcement officials and the community.

For the purposes of this inquiry, ten questions were asked which the branch staff believed would provide the necessary control for securing the information desired. These questions and the answers now follow.

Average number of complaints reported to the NAACP each month. There is an average of three and one-third complaints per month of police brutality. Our records show that anywhere from 1 to 9 complaints are filed with the NAACP during the period of a month, with the largest number of complaints being recorded in July of each year.

Most frequent type of police misconduct in these complaints. The most frequent type of police misconduct involved in these complaints is physical assault, followed by insulting epithets:

The common use of profanity and the reference to the complainant's race in a derogatory manner.

The indiscriminate searching of citizens' pockets and wallets on public streets.

When citizens question the violation of their rights, the officers resort to physical assault, followed by arrest.

Rank order of the various types of police misconduct involved in these complaints. Our reports show that out of 103 cases, 33 were physical assault, and 23 were cases of both physical and verbal assault. Our reports show 12 cases of insulting epithets used by arresting officers, 12 cases of illegal search of home or car, and 4 cases of false arrest.

In 19 of these assault cases, victims were held without charge (usually overnight) and released. 3 were dismissed in court for lack of evidence.

Women were the victims of 18 of these assault cases.

One case involved a 16-year-old boy.

Our files show an additional 8 cases of threats and intimidation on the part of police officers.

The central problem involved in the attitude of the complainants. The central problem involved in the attitude of the complainants seems to be the unprovoked attack by the police while questioning them. This, followed by false charges of "resisting arrest," has created distrust and bitter resentment of the police department on the part of the complainants.

Do the attitudes of the complainants toward the police reflect any common factors or prejudices of interest to this inquiry? Our reports show that 90 per cent of the complaints are working people without a previous police record, who believe they are subjected to unwarranted abuse because of their race. They feel that their freedom and well-being is in constant jeopardy since they are exposed to the sadistic whims of race-baiting police officers. This is evidenced by the similarity in the complaints where the officer is quoted as demanding that the complainant say, "Yes sir and no sir when answering a white man," or "I can see you are one of those smart niggers."

Do the attitudes of policemen toward complainants reflect any common factors or prejudices of interest to this inquiry? Our reports show a total disregard, on the part of policemen, for the complainant's rights as a citizen in every case recorded. Example:

Searching of citizens in public streets for minor traffic violations.

The common use of racial slurs. Physical assault.

The common practice of assault and arrest of those friends or relatives who attempt to intervene on behalf of the person being attacked by the police. Abuse of complainants in police precincts.

The search and destruction of property, without a warrant, in citizens' homes.

The use of profanity in the presence of women.

The prevalent indication that the

complainant has no rights that he (the police officer) has to respect.

The intimidation and abuse of interracial couples, while expressing their opposition to mixed personal associations.

Assumption that complainants are guilty of some crime, if not, they should be, without any evidence.

Hostile references to the NAACP in an effort to intimidate complainants.

The indiscreet and common practice of stopping women on the street and accusing them of prostitution or of writing numbers.

Do the complaints show that any particular police precinct stations are involved more often than others?

Our records show that out of 98 complaints, 23 were made against officers from the Woodward Station; 15 against officers from the Vernor Station; 13 against officers from the Petoskey Station and 12 against officers from the Hunt Street Station. This shows a total of 63 complaints against the officers of these four precincts, which is 64 per cent of the complaints of the entire 15 precincts.

What conclusion can be drawn from the branch records regarding the official attitude of the police department to the complainants reported by the NAACP? The most significant official attitude of the police department is the reluctance to take stern disciplinary measures in dealing with officers who have exceeded their authority.

The attempt, by the Department, to defend the behavior of the police officers even when there is reason-

able doubt of their innocence.

The failure of the Department to curtail the practice of strong-arm methods in making arrests.

The failure to replace those officers who bully underprivileged and unpopular elements of the community; who think their badge gives them authority to judge and punish a suspect, and who do not hesitate to enforce not only the "law" but their own prejudices as well.

Criticism of the NAACP and other community leadership, by the Department, for not being "cooperative" when they point out existing police brutality, and the danger of this practice if it is not corrected. An example of this is the statement made by the Police Commissioner in defense of police officers who were unduly violent in dispersing a crowd of people who had gathered on the street to hear a group of speakers from the Muhammad Temple. In a statement to the press the commissioner said: "The officers are to be highly commended for their alertness and patience in preventing what might have been a much more serious incident. A minimum of force was used and only the perpetrators were apprehended. The assembly was not only unlawful, but constituted a breach of the peace." This statement was made after the police received a protest from Arthur L. Johnson, executive secretary of the Detroit branch N.A.A.C.P., who arrived on the scene along with Congressman Charles C. Diggs, Jr., a few minutes after it began. Another

example of the official attitude of the police department was the failure to acknowledge a complaint where the complainant, a Mr. Marvin Pettit of 3529 Nottingham, reported that an officer requested his signature on a petition for Mayor Orville Hubbard on the basis that Mayor Hubbard "is against Colored People." Despite the fact that a letter urging that this matter be looked into and the offending officer be dealt with accordingly, no disposition of this case was reported to the branch.

What are the strong points as indicated by the records in the branch approach to the police-community relations problem? The most salient points, gathered from the records, in the branch approach is an unbiased attempt to get the facts in each case reported, and to make a sober assessment of the problem, followed by requesting the Police Commissioner to investigate thoroughly each complaint, and insisting upon impartial redress. Our records show a continuous effort on the part of the branch to get the Police Commissioner and Department officials to understand the importance of good police-community relations for sound law enforcement.

These efforts are:

Letters pointing out the appalling abuse of civil rights by some members of the police department.

Letters expressing the branch's support and appreciation when the Department indicates an interest in taking steps to improve police-community relations.

Requesting periodic reports of progress the Department is making in

adjusting brutality complaints and the proposed disposition of these complaints.

Making periodic recommendations to the Department in an effort to help establish a better climate of police-community relations.

What are the weak points as indicated by the records in the branch approach to the police-community relations problem? The weak points indicated by the records are:

The lack of an opportunity to examine the claims of both sides in complaints made to the police department, including:

The record of police officers accused by the complainants.

The number of complaints made by Negro citizens against these officers.

The number of complaints made by white citizens against these officers.

The common reasons for arrest of the complainants by these officers?

The common reasons for arrest of white persons by these officers?

In summarizing what has been indicated by the records we would like to point out that the victims of these assaults, for the most part, are working people without any previous police record. The records also show that the complainants live in various sections of the city rather than in a so-called 'crime area.' This seems to suggest that the manhandling and third degree methods revealed in these cases is unnecessary and reflects the need for a thorough and impartial investigation of

police methods in this city, if the Department is to have the confidence and respect of law-abiding citizens. As indicated by these reports, this is a grave situation but it can be corrected if those responsible for law enforcement are willing to take an unbiased "look" and recognize that something must be done to create in the community an atmosphere for cooperation, and respect for the individual.

The following suggestions might help to establish good police-community relations:

Increase the number of Negro policemen at all levels in the Department by a completely "open" hiring policy.

Integrate the police (mixed details).

Conduct human relations programs in the neighborhoods surrounding each precinct. This program should

place special emphasis on courtesy by the police and respect for the police by the citizen.

Organizing of a representative interracial citizens group to make a survey of the police department and recommend improvements based on their findings. This survey should be as much in the interest of favorable working conditions for the police as in the civil rights of citizens. This group should publicize the achievements of the Police Department in an effort to establish pride in their work and at the same time build respect for intelligent law enforcement.

Investigation of police brutality complaints by an independent, representative committee, so as to avoid the hazards and pitfalls of the Department investigating itself — an inherently wrong procedure.

HONOREES, SPONSORS AND ATTENDANTS at the seventh annual pageant of the Fairfax county, Virginia, branch held on July 25. The Fairfax Crusaders are in the rear.

Flash Johnson





Philadelphia, Pa., youth council wins first honors at 49th NAACP convention, Cleveland, Ohio. Holding the Ike Smalls Award for 1958 are (from L) Shirley Hawkins, Mrs. Sarah Scott, advisor; Carolyn Sneed, and Mrs. Lucille Blondin, advisor.



Members of the Zion Baptist church (Rev. Leon Sullivan pastor), Philadelphia, Pa., give Philadelphia branch president Dr. Harry J. Greene a basket full of NAACP memberships, 400 to be exact. From L, the ladies are Mrs. Bryand Tawber, Mrs. Leonidas Allen, and Mrs. Senora Gratton.



Mrs. Rubye Evans (L), who sold the most individual memberships in the history of the St. Louis county, Mo., branch, is being presented a trophy by the donor, Mrs. Kitty Hall of the St. Louis branch. The two men are (from L) Morris Henderson, branch president, and Morris Kraines.

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Helen Speed, Kansas City, Mo., branch worker and YWCA secretary, receives a check from Jackson Harbert, district manager Atlanta Life Insurance Co., as first payment on NAACP life membership for agents and employees of the local district office.



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Secretary Charles Hubbard of the New Haven, Conn., branch presents the Junior Community League, Inc., of New Haven, its NAACP life membership plaque. Winifred Virtue receives the plaque on behalf of the group in presence of Mrs. Cora Wetmore, JCL secretary.



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Clarence Dockens (L), president Philadelphia, Pa., chapter Frontiers of America, Inc., and treasurer Charles Chew, Jr., pay \$250.00 balance on NAACP life membership for their organization to Philadelphia branch executive secretary Charles Shorter (R).





Russ Carter

JUNIOR MEMBERS—This group of ladies, officers in the Jack and Jill of North Jersey, in Newark, N. J., are making plans for Jack and Jill junior NAACP members. They are (from L.) Mrs. Harry Mickey, vice-president; Mrs. Thomasina Fitzroy, president; Mrs. Charles Johnson, local founder and chairman education committee; Mrs. Madaline Williams, state youth advisor and member New Jersey State Legislature.



Russ Carter

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE of North Jersey Jack and Jill is briefed by Mrs. Madaline Williams (2nd from R.) on proper procedures. From L, they are Mrs. Marjorie Brown, Mrs. Charles Johnson, Mrs. Ulysses Campbell, Mrs. Williams, and Mrs. Herbert Robinson.

despite the

supreme court

INTEGRATION IS STILL

but your NAACP

Life Membership will help

make it a reality!

Despite favorable court decisions, despite token integration in a few scattered areas, real integration is yet to come in most areas of the South. This means that thousands of young Americans are denied basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution—and are receiving a humiliating, sub-standard education. This means that the struggle for full civil rights must continue in full force if the roadblocks thrown up by the racists are to be overthrown. It is a struggle that requires the strongest financial resources. Your support is vital. Enroll as a Life Member in NAACP—today!

ST JUST A WORD...

LIFE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

KIVIE KAPLAN

JACKIE ROBINSON

DR. BENJAMIN E. MAYS

CO-CHAIRMEN

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kelly Alexander | Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin |
| George A. Beavers, Jr. | Dr. J. Leonidas Leach |
| Bishop W. Y. Bell | Hon. Herbert H. Lehman |
| Dr. George D. Cannon | Mrs. Rose Morgan Louis |
| Dr. W. Montague Cobb | Bishop Edgar A. Love |
| Mrs. K. Watson Coleman | Dr. James J. McClendon |
| Nathaniel Colley | Dr. Maurice Rabb |
| Hon. Hubert T. Delany | A. Philip Randolph |
| Earl B. Dickerson | Walter Reuther |
| Dr. S. Ralph Harlow | Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt |
| Bishop Eugene C. Hatcher | Mrs. Nellie G. Routhac |
| Hon. Carl R. Johnson | Ike Smalls |
| Dr. Mordecai Johnson | Dr. Alfred E. Thomas, Jr. |
| Dr. Robert H. Johnson | Mrs. Pauline F. Weeden |

Send to
your local branch
or to

NAACP

20 West 40th Street

New York 18, N. Y.

I wish to become a Life Member of the NAACP.

- ☐ I enclose check for \$.....
as first payment toward a Life Membership.
- ☐ I enclose a check for \$500 for full Life
Membership.

Name.....

Address.....

City and State

Annual installments of as little as \$50 or more, sent to
either your local branch of NAACP or the New York head-
quarters, can make you a Life Member in this vital crusade.

AN URGENT MEMBERSHIP APPEAL

Dear NAACP Member:

All of our NAACP members must have been aware of the implications of the questions regarding NAACP membership which were asked me by panelists on "Face the Nation" (CBS Television, Sunday, September 7). The first question asked by John Madigan of the Chicago American was as follows:

"... In view of recent events, do you think it possible that the NAACP has perhaps pursued its course a little too vigorously, with the result that there could be a backlash which would actually deter and slow orderly integration in schools?"

I replied that we do not believe the campaign has been pressed to that extent and that to slow it down now would bring it to a standstill.

Howard K. Smith of CBS News then asked the following question:

"In connection with that very same question, I have heard reports that the membership of the NAACP in southern states has fallen considerably since the troubles in Little Rock a year ago. Is it true that your organization has been hurt rather than helped by these troubles?"

I replied that we have lost members in Alabama and elsewhere, "but our membership is as high as it's ever been, some 300,000—310,000, and we have a sturdy corps of workers in the southern states."

The import of these questions was clear. They indicated that many people who are critical of the NAACP's integration program and tactics imply that we are losing members as a result of our vigorous approach to desegregation in the schools. In my reply I said: "By no means has activity been suspended in the South and by no means has the organization been crippled to the extent that we would feel that the program ought to be tailored or curtailed."

These questions point up the urgency to our leaders and members of doing something immediately about the decline in our membership this year. We simply cannot afford any further loss of numerical strength. Instead, *we must by the close of 1958 show some increase over 1957.*

PEAL

We are therefore appealing to each loyal member to help us in this crisis by taking the following action:

1. Solicit memberships among your family and friends.
2. Solicit contributions from those who are already paid-up members.
3. Use the attached blank to forward your memberships and contributions either to your local branch or to the National Office.

The entire world looks upon the NAACP as a strong and militant organization representing the hopes and aspirations of our people. The urgency of the situation requires extraordinary efforts now on the part of every NAACP member and friend. Please report your memberships and contributions immediately to your local branch or the National Office.

Sincerely,
ROY WILKINS
Executive Secretary

WINNERS of the 43rd Spingarn Medal, awarded to the teenagers and Mrs. Bates for their heroic role in breaking the color bar at Little Rock's Central High School, are (from L.) Minnijean Brown, Jefferson Thomas, Thelma Mother-shed, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Gloria Ray, Melba Patillo, Terrence Roberts, Carlotta Walls and Mrs. L. C. Bates.

W. W. Crawford



NAACP MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL CAMPAIGN

Fill Out and send to your local Branch or NAACP
20 West 40th Street, N. Y. 18, N. Y.

I pledge my continued cooperation to keep the NAACP strong and militant in the integration struggle.

I am enclosing \$.....for the following membership—contributions

| (Name) | (Address) | (Amount) |
|--------|-----------|----------|
| | | \$..... |
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| | | \$..... |

(List additional memberships and/or contributions on separate sheet)

Solicited by: Name:

Address:

City & State

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

| | |
|---|--------|
| Youth Membership (under 21) | \$.50 |
| Minimum Membership | 2.00 |
| Minimum Membership and The Crisis | 3.50 |
| Blue Certificate Membership | 5.00 |
| Gold Certificate Membership | 10.00 |
| Contributing Members | 25.00 |
| Donors | 100.00 |
| Life Members | 500.00 |

(Memberships of \$3.50 and up include \$1.50 for one year's subscription to The Crisis magazine.)

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Looking and Listening . . .

HOUSING

CHARGES that the federal housing programs are supporting and increasing residential segregation were made on June 11 by Algernon D. Black, chairman of the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing, in a statement presented to the housing subcommittee of the Senate on banking and currency.

"Urban renewal developments continue to receive federal approval and funds despite plans for new segregated housing," Mr. Black declared. "The majority of federal public housing projects are segregated. FHA and VA continue to underwrite racially exclusive suburbs. As a result, it is the minority groups who live in substandard housing and slums."

Asserting that the United States Government is the single most important factor in the nation's housing picture, the NCADH called for unequivocal prohibition of segregation in all federally-aided housing programs. "Federal assistance," the statement said, "should be conditioned on a guarantee that the accommodations will be available to all qualified persons under the same terms and conditions, without regard to race, religion or national origin."

In an analysis of the three major federal housing programs, the NCDH reported that: to date the Urban Renewal program has resulted

in a net loss of 52,000 units, and almost two-thirds of the displaced families are non-white; FHA continues to place the prestige and powers of the federal government behind racially-restricted housing, and less than 2 per cent of the total number of new homes insured by FHA since 1946 have been available to minorities; and that PHA continues to dispense funds for segregated projects.

Today the housing shortage in our nation is as critical, if not more so, as it was when the Federal Government entered the housing picture 23 years ago. With the decline in population in rural America, and the consequent increase in urban areas, the situation becomes more aggravated each year. The urban population of the United States, according to the 1950 census, represents two-thirds of the total; in the Northeast the proportion rises to 80 per cent, and in the West to 70 per cent.

A significant development in this dramatic population movement is the fact that the non-white population in urban areas is increasing more rapidly than the white. In Morton Grodzins' study of the 14 largest metropolitan areas (*Scientific American*, October 1957), where more than one-third of all U. S. citizens reside, it is pointed out that between 1940 and 1950 the total white population in those 14 cities rose only 4 per cent, whereas the Negro population leaped upward 68 per cent.

With the increasing exodus of middle and upper class whites to generally-restricted suburbs, there is emerging a national pattern of the older central

city occupied by a growing concentration of non-white families surrounded by lily-white Suburbia, U.S.A. The economic, social and political consequences of this situation are appalling. . . .

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

THE waste and ridiculousness of racial discrimination was stressed again when a company in New Orleans, Louisiana, agreed in an out-of-court settlement to construct a separate rest room and dressing facilities because of one Negro woman.

The problem began when the Nat Buring Packing Company moved to a new plant site. Although the firm employed several dozen women, Mrs. Lucille Davis Cobb was the only female Negro employee.

In its new plant, the company built a rest room and dressing facilities for female employees. But in segregated New Orleans, separate facilities for white women employees and for the one Negro woman employee were required. The company refused, because of the cost, to build a separate rest room and dressing room for Mrs. Cobb.

The Union representing the workers in the plant, Local 499, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen (AFL-CIO), attempted to persuade the white female employees to agree to Mrs. Cobb's using the same rest room and dressing facilities as they used.

The Union is made up of whites and Negroes, with members of both races serving as officers. The contract negotiated by the Union with the Nat Buring Company specifically forbids job discrimination "against any employee because of race, sex, political or religious beliefs."

The women at the plant would not listen to the Union's pleas. They refused to share the facilities with Mrs. Cobb. The company then discharged Mrs. Cobb because there were no facilities for her.

Mrs. Cobb sued the company and the Union for damages. The suit brought the case to the attention of the national officers of Local 499's parent union, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen (AFL-CIO).

President Thomas J. Lloyd and secretary-treasurer Patrick E. Gorman were shocked by the action of the members of Local 499, who had refused to let Mrs. Cobb use the rest room and dressing facilities. They ordered the local to make immediate amends to Mrs. Cobb and to urge the company to do the same.

Lloyd and Gorman also ordered an investigation into the Local's efforts to eliminate racial discrimination. The investigation showed the integrated Local had an active campaign to promote harmonious racial relations but was finding it difficult to overcome the feelings in favor of segregation of some of its white members.

The company agreed to build a rest room and dressing facilities for Negro women in its new building program and then to rehire Mrs. Cobb. It will compensate her for the pay she has lost.

The Union has helped Mrs. Cobb find a similar job while she is waiting to be rehired by the Nat Buring Company.

"The AFL-CIO Constitution and the Constitution of our Union specifically forbids racial discrimination," Lloyd and Gorman said. "Our

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UPI Telephoto

MRS. ELIZABETH PERRY REIDE, 22, first Negro registered nurse to join the staff of the Municipal Hospital at Stillwater, Oklahoma, looks into a medicine cabinet at the hospital. Mrs. Reide is a graduate of Stillwater schools and holds a B.S. from Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn., where her husband is a medical school senior.

Union not only adheres to these injunctions, but has, in its 61 years of existence, been one of the leaders in promoting Brotherhood. Mrs. Cobb's case shows how completely ridiculous racial segregation is. It is fantastic that a woman would actually lose her job because separate facilities have to be provided for Negroes. Such situations can not be allowed to happen," they said.

K. OF C. GRAND KNIGHT

JAMES L. PIERCE, a Negro Catholic convert from Brooklyn, N. Y., has been chosen Grand Knight of St. Columba Council, K. of C., in that diocese. When he assumed office on July 1 for the year 1958-1959, Mr. Pierce became the first Negro to be head of a Council or to hold such office in the Knights of Columbus.

This distinction has come to Mr. Pierce after several years of outstanding service in the various ranks of the Council. He has served the past three years as deputy grand knight of the Council and is a lieutenant in the Honor Guard. In addition Mr. Pierce has long been active in parish and diocesan activities, serving as vice-president and diocesan union delegate of his parish Holy Name Society. He is also a vice-president of Brooklyn's Catholic Interracial Council.

It was through his parish that Mr. Pierce entered the Knights of Columbus. Rev. Joseph Greblunas, assistant-pastor at St. Gregory's parish and the chaplain of St. Columba Council, proposed Mr. Pierce in the Knights. St. Gregory's, a mixed parish, has set the pattern for parish

integration since its neighborhood composition began to change about ten years ago. St. Columba Council has also taken the lead in racial integration.

Mr. Pierce, his wife, and two sons have been living in St. Gregory's parish for many years and he is employed by the State Workmen's Compensation Board. His efforts on the part of harmonious race relations have marked Mr. Pierce's advance to his present history-making achievement.

"PIONEERING TEACHER"

LUCILE PREUSS writes in *The Milwaukee Journal* (June 2, 1958) of the achievements of Anna Mae Fisher as a teacher of severely mentally retarded children. Miss Fisher was the first teacher in this field of special education in Wisconsin and began with eight pupils whose parents engaged her in 1951 after she received her master's degree in exceptional education. She is now chairman of the department of severely mentally retarded children, teaching at the State Street school where six teachers instruct 120 pupils.

'Why was your picture in the paper?' the pupils of a young, vivacious teacher wanted to know.

'Because I'm teaching wonderful boys and girls like you,' she smiled back at them. . . .

The reason for the picture was a recently won award, for Miss Fisher was named 'woman of the year,' by the Catholic War Veterans' auxiliary at its recent convention at Racine.

If the children are excited over it, they only reflect the excitement of their teacher. 'I'd never been in a parade be-

fore,' she opened her eyes wide. 'It was quite a wonderful experience.'

The children Miss Fisher teaches will never get prizes for their compositions or win the school debate. They are learning personal care, how to get along with others and perhaps will learn to prepare a simple meal or make simple things of wood.

'The first thing a teacher of the severely mentally handicapped must learn is to accept these youngsters as children. The way they look, the way they talk must all be understood,' said Miss Fisher who admitted it was hard for her, too, at first.

But she has learned to accept their slow progress and sometimes their few steps backward and enthusiastically says she loves her work.

Anna Mae was the first teacher of her kind in the city 'or the state for that matter,' she added. A group of eight couples sought education for their mentally retarded children. There was none available so they began looking around for a teacher.

Anna Mae had just received her master's degree in exceptional education from what was then Milwaukee State Teachers college, 'and we met.' Classes began in February, 1951.

'I was a little frightened at first,' said Anna Mae. 'I wanted it to succeed so badly.' Her first eight pupils,

whose ages ranged from 6 to 15, met at the Margaret Allis social center. Parents paid tuition and from this tuition paid Miss Fisher's salary. Each parent also brought his child to and from school.

'Initially, we had no equipment. We rented desks for a dollar a year from the Milwaukee Vocational school. There was one toy for each child; I never will forget that, said the teacher. 'One box of crayons and some paper for each.

'The children were all sizes and shapes and there was a terrific range of age and readiness,' she recalled. 'I tried to discover what each could do by having them introduce themselves,' Anna Mae recalled the first day.

'We tried to play ball and to keep moving as a group, but,' the teacher pointed out 'some of the children never had been with other children before. Their parents were downstairs and they knew it, so it was rather like the first day at kindergarten. . . .'

In 1951 the Wisconsin state legislature passed a bill providing for this special education on a public school basis. In December, 1951, the Milwaukee school board decided to begin classes at Andrew Jackson school in January, 1952.

Miss Fisher was the first and only teacher in the program until the follow-

Isaac Sanders Payne IV(L) of Portland, Oregon, nominated to the U. S. Naval Academy, and his father Isaac Sanders Payne III.



Baltzegar

ing September. The entire program now is part of the special education division supervised by Miss Ingeborg Severson.

Today Miss Fisher's goals are much different from those in 1951. "With that first class, I worked to keep the children happy for the hours they were with me. Now the scope is different. The goal is to help them become better members of their families, their school. It's so important to help them to be aware outside of themselves."

Methods and teaching techniques still are developing from the teacher's experience with her pupils in this special education field. This year the classes moved from the Andrew Jackson school where regular classes also were held to the school on State st., devoted entirely to the 120 special pupils. . . .

ISAAC PAYNE

ISAAC SANDERS PAYNE, IV, of Portland, Oregon, has been nominated to the U. S. Naval Academy by Rep. Edith Green (D, Oregon). Isaac is the first Negro from Oregon to be nominated to the Academy.

Eighteen-year-old Isaac, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac S. Payne, is a 1957 graduate of the Jefferson High School, Portland. In high school he was a varsity letterman in wrestling, a member of the National Honor Society, and active in various school clubs. He is an Eagle Scout, an Explorer Scout, and junior scoutmaster of Troop #92, holding the God and Country Award. In 1957 he received one of the two Grand Lodge scholarships awarded by the Prince Hall Masonic Grand Lodge of Washington. He is now a freshman at Portland State College.

Mr. Payne's family is closely identified with the NAACP, his father

being secretary of the supervisory committee of the Portland branch credit union.

"BUSIEST WOMAN"

"WISCONSIN'S new Democratic national committeewoman, Alderman Vel Phillips, might easily qualify as the busiest woman in Milwaukee," says *The Milwaukee Journal* (June 16, 1958).

Interviewed Monday in her tidy second floor apartment at 508 W. Walnut st., Mrs. Phillips talked about her newest job amid dozens of phone calls from well wishers and a busy schedule that included stops at the city hall and the law office she shares with her husband, Atty. W. Dale Phillips, at 2236 N. 8th st.

Mrs. Phillips was elected national committeewoman at the Democratic state convention at La Crosse. She won over Mrs. Marguerite Benson of Milwaukee, a veteran party worker, by 150 votes.

The new post was another first in a growing line of precedents set by Mrs. Phillips. She was the first Negro woman to be graduated in law from the University of Wisconsin and she and her husband were the first Negro couple to be admitted to practice before the federal court here.

In 1956, she became the first woman and first Negro to be elected to Milwaukee's common council. She represents the 2nd ward.

Mrs. Phillips bristled at newspaper reports that some Democrats believed her race helped her election as national committeewoman. She called the idea "fantastic."

"I believe I was chosen as an individual and as a fellow Democrat," she said. "The fact that I was a Negro was really incidental," she said. "I know that I wasn't elected because I was a Negro."

What the Branches Are Doing

Alaska: Clarence Coleman, president of the ANCHORAGE branch, took out a paid-up NAACP life membership to become the first life member in Alaska. Mrs. Clarence Coleman, Walter Bremond, Jack Blackwell, Allen Ford, Jr., William Pege, and Melvin Olson are now making payments on their life memberships.

California: Garfield Steward, chairman of the legal redress committee of the SAN FRANCISCO branch, has announced filing of a complaint alleging racial discrimination in employment against the Frigidaire Sales Corporation of Emeryville with the President's Committee on Government Contracts.

The complaint was filed in behalf of Bernice L. Dohm, a resident of Berkeley, California. It charged that in July of 1948 the Frigidaire Sales Corporation of Emeryville, California, advertised for an experienced "NCR 3200 Operator." Subsequently upon telephone inquiry Miss Dohm was informed that the position was still available and that her qualifications seemed to fit the requirements of the company. Upon being informed that the applicant was a Negro, a Mr. Fisher, "presumably of the personnel department," advised her that "for all practical purposes the job was filled." Subsequently on that same day a telephone inquiry from the same applicant received the information that the job was still open and that she should report the following day for an interview. Upon reporting for interview, as instructed, the complainant was told that the job was filled. Again the next day a telephone inquiry made by the complainant resulted in the information that the job was not filled and that the inquirer should report for interview.

Numerous unresolved cases of police brutality and mass vagrancy arrests involving Negroes in the Bay Area and Los Angeles have been brought to the attention of the Assembly Interim Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights. NAACP attorneys George Vaughn, Los Angeles, and Terry Francois and John McFeeley, San Francisco, have presented scores of case histories of police mistreatment of Negroes. Yet nothing has been done.

Illinois: Reports on the forty-ninth annual convention of the NAACP were featured at the July monthly meeting of the CHICAGO branch.



HIS EXCELLENCY Daniel A. Chapman, ambassador to the United States from Ghana, Africa, has the work of the NAACP in North Carolina explained to him and his wife, Mrs. Chapman, and the ambassador's secretary, Mrs. Lucille Mabrey, by Charles A. McLean (2nd from R.), NAACP field secretary in North Carolina.

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Annual tag-day of the Chicago branch will be held on September 20.

Atty. Willie M. Whiting, executive secretary of the Chicago branch presented a check for \$2,500 to Mrs. Margurite Belafonte, national co-chairman of the NAACP's 1958 fight for freedom fund campaign. The check represented a partial payment on Chicago's contribution to the drive for \$1,000,000 set as the goal of the national fund raising effort to enable the Association to expand its activities in the fight to end racial discrimination in America.

New York: The labor and industry committee of the BRONX branch met with representatives of major businesses in this city to discuss the discriminatory hiring policies of Bronx business houses. Members of the delegation meeting with the business leaders were Rev. Elder Hawkins, Jacques Buitenkant, and Henry Chartier.

Pennsylvania: The Negro employment picture among salesmen and local distributors of Ballantine Beer & Ale Company was discussed by executives of the PHILADELPHIA branch with Ballantine officials. The company assured the branch that it had no racial prejudices in its hiring policies.

The branch youth council won the Ike Smalls Award at the 49th annual convention of the Association for the most distinguished work during the past year. The youth council of the Philadelphia branch was cited for increasing its membership from 205 to 596; for excellent programming; for educational and vocational guidance; for active participation of its committees; and for developing leadership.

Virginia: The FAIRFAX COUNTY branch held its most successful freedom fund pageant, under the management of Mrs. Eliza Hawkins, chairman of the branch entertainment committee, during July. Over \$600 was raised through this pageant, the largest sum netted through a pageant. Sponsors who brought in the three highest sums were given money donations for use in the churches they represented. The largest amount was \$200 brought in by the Burke sponsor and honoree. Uniontown was second in rating, with Odricks Corner church third.

Those honored from each community, with the sponsor, are: Vienna First Baptist church, Eva Valentine, sponsor, Mabel Ellis, honoree; Vienna Union Baptist Church, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Wells, sponsor, Mary Smith, honoree; Cartersville, Victoria Williams, sponsor, McDonald Greeh, honoree; Dranesville, Mrs. Joe Ellis, sponsor, Rev. Norman Smith, honoree; Odricks Corner, Marie Thomas, sponsor, Mae W. Hall, honoree; Merrifield, Mamie Phillips, sponsor, Rev. E. E. Terry, honoree; Falls Church-Galloway, Frances Coates, sponsor, Rev. C. C. Wilson, honoree; Falls Church-2nd Baptist, Marie Robinson, sponsor, Evelyn Whitmore, honoree; Fairfax, Mrs. Metcalf, sponsor, Mrs. Walter Bowles, honoree; Burke, Francis Honesty, sponsor, Essie Hamilton, honoree; Oakgrove, Mrs. Newman & Paige, sponsor, Granville Jones, honoree; Chesterbrook, Claudius

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Brown, honoree; Gum Springs, Hannah Adams, sponsor, John Gray, honoree; Mt. Pleasant, Courtney Sheppard, sponsor, J. Sidney Holland, honoree; Chantilly, Phyllis O'Neil, honoree; Bailey's X-Roads, Helen Gross, sponsor, Rev. Milton Sheppard, honoree; Clifton, Mrs. Gibson and Mrs. Hughes, sponsor; Laurie Hughes, honoree; Floris, Ethel Bush, sponsor, Clarence Bush, honoree; Gum Spring Methodist, Sadie Harris, sponsor, Rev. J. L. Winters, honoree; Langley, Emma Boston, sponsor, Helen Webb, honoree; Pleasant Grove, Ladies Society, sponsor, Odric Jackson, honoree; Civic Links, Bernadine Hawkins, sponsor, Eliza Hawkins, honoree; Uniontown, Emma Bush, sponsor, Romaine Lewis, honoree.

Others honored by the Committee selection were: Mrs. Louise Henderson, the oldest NAACP member in the county; Miss Williams, the youngest member; Mr. William A. West, secretary of the Branch and Mrs. Audrey Williams, membership chairman.



Gazette Telegraph Photo

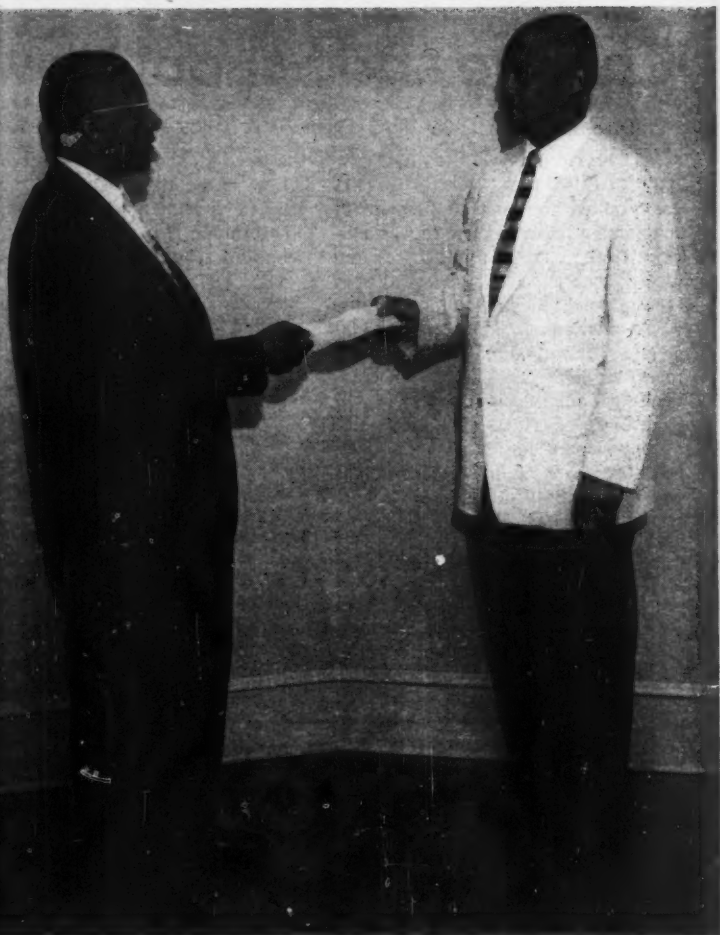
LIFE MEMBERSHIP—Judge Carl R. Johnson (3rd from R.) of Kansas City, Mo., presents an Elks life membership certificate to George Brock, exalted ruler of Pikes Peak Region Lodge No. 473 of the BPOE at a banquet held in the YMCA. Others in the picture are (from L) S. C. Hunter, Sr., treasurer; Kirtley Mitchell, grand district representative; Mrs. E. C. Marsh, president Colorado Springs NAACP branch; and Sam Hunter, Jr., secretary of the lodge.

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REV. E. B. PHILLIPS, pastor of the Greater Galilee Baptist church, Milwaukee, Wis., makes a \$100.00 payment toward his NAACP life membership to Dr. John W. Maxwell, Sr. (R), chairman of the Milwaukee branch life membership committee.

College and School News

The NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE AND FUND FOR NEGRO STUDENTS has granted the first supplementary scholarship award from the American Conscience Fund to Ernest Green, the first Negro graduated from Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. Fifty-two similar awards, totaling about \$17,000, were made available this year to outstanding Negro high school seniors.

In NSSFNS's ten-year history, the agency's counseling service has helped more than 5,200 Negro students enter over 350 interracial colleges and universities. Total scholarship aid of almost \$2,000,000 was secured by NSSFNS for these students.

the second semester honor roll at SHAW UNIVERSITY. Of this number 19 are freshmen; 12, sophomores; 17, juniors; 17 seniors; 7 in the school of religion; and 3 unclassified.

An Israeli school teacher and a member of the Canadian Department of Defense were among the 48 persons from the fields of education, social work, health, religion, labor, government, and industry who attended the fifth annual summer workshop in the improvement of human relations conducted by BOSTON UNIVERSITY during the month of July.

Seventy-five students are listed on

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college women, held its twenty-fifth national convention at the Statler Hotel in Washington, D.C., August 17-23. The sorority was founded in 1913 at Howard University. By twenty-two Negro women faced with what has been called the double handicap of race and sex.

Dr. R. W. Brown, dean of research at Tuskegee Institute, was a guest lecturer at the University of Kansas summer lecture series. He spoke on "Tissue Culture and Virus Host Cell Relationship."

Stephen Asiedu, a 22-year old native of Ghana, spent a summer session at COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY studying French. Mr. Asiedu plans to study medicine and then to return to Ghana.

Dr. Samuel L. Gandy, dean of the chapel at DILLARD UNIVERSITY, was one of five clergymen who made an on-the-spot survey of the status of religion on both sides of the iron curtain. Dr. Gandy said the group was especially interested in religious freedom in the Soviet Union. He reported that there is complete freedom to worship in Russia and that the religious fervor of the Russians is highly pronounced.

Three specimens of a rare goat-antelope known as the Japanese serow, so highly regarded in Japan that it appears on a postage stamp and is protected as a "national monument," have been received by THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY. The valuable acquisitions are the results of a two-month ex-

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FREE PARKING

pedition undertaken for the AMM-NH in Japan last spring by Thomas L. Blakemore of Tokyo and Colonel R. B. White of Scarsdale, New York.

The Japanese serow (*Capricornis crispus*), or kamoshika as it is called in Japan, is a small, shaggy, hoofed mammal that somewhat resembles a Rocky Mountain goat. Blackish-brown in color, it has gracefully tapered black horns. An extremely shy and wary animal, it inhabits the sub-alpine forests of Japan at elevations ranging from about 3,000 to 7,000 feet.

W. Barton Beatty, Jr., head of the UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND's Cleveland-Pittsburgh region since 1955, has been named national campaign director. Mr. Beatty's regional assignment will be filled by Joseph Henry Taylor, formerly in charge of vocational services for the Cleveland Urban League.

Mr. Beatty, a native of Cairo, Illinois, is an alumnus of Fisk and

has done graduate work at Howard and the University of Michigan.

The UNCF contributed \$326,250 to its thirty-three member colleges and universities on July 3. This allocation is the second distribution of money during 1958, and brings the total amount received this year by the participating colleges to \$861,779.

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, president of VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY, was one of a group of Baptists who visited Russia, Poland, and other Baptist communities in the Baltics during the summer. The tour was sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance.

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY lists 102 students on its second semester honor roll. Five of the students—Henry Blue, Mary Cunningham, James Farmer, Katie Barkdale, and Lillian Dixon—maintained straight "A" averages.

Dean James Tate Cater of TALLADEGA COLLEGE died of a heart attack at his home in Whittier, California, on May 5.

Mr. Cater came to Talladega as dean in the fall of 1918 and served in that capacity until June 2, 1952.

Dr. T. H. Henderson, dean of Virginia Union, was principal speaker before the Home Economics Teachers Association meeting held at VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE in June.

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Dr. E. Perry Crump, chairman of the department of pediatrics at MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE, was one of eleven pediatricians in the country elected to active membership in the American Pediatric Society on May 5 during its 68th annual meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Dr. P. F. Hahn, of the cancer research laboratories of Meharry, was an invited panel member on recent developments in cancer therapy at the seventh International Cancer Congress held in London, England, July 6-12. He spoke on advances in radiation isotope therapy. He was also recently elected an affiliate of the Royal Society of Medicine of London and invited to give a paper on "Interstitial Radiotherapy with Radioactive Isotopes" at the ninth International Congress of Radiology to be held in Munich, Germany, in 1959.

J. H. Whitmore, M.D., class of 1954, has pledged \$20,000 to his alma mater. His pledge is in two parts: a \$10,000 life insurance policy with the school as beneficiary, and a \$10,000 pledge to be paid over an extended period. This contribution is one of the highest ever given by a Meharry alumnus.

SPELMAN COLLEGE's professor of biology Dr. Barnett F. Smith has received a research grant of \$4,180 from the Public Health Service of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The period in which the grant will be used is from September 1, 1958, to August 31, 1959. Dr. Smith and his research associates have been carrying on re-

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search during the past three years on the nutrition of a protozoan parasite, *Trichomonas vaginalis*, under the sponsorship of the U.S. Public Health Service.

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY was host during the summer to the Institute for High School Teachers of Science and Mathematics, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. The institute program is designed to offer additional training to selected high school teachers of chemistry, biology, and mathematics.

Among the plays presented by the AU summer theatre were *Heaven Can Wait*, by Harry Segall, and *Tiger at the Gates*, by Giradoux. Among AU summer school speakers were Dr. Oran Eagleson, dean of introduction at Spelman; Dr. Benjamin Mays, president of Morehouse; and Dean Samuel Westerfield, AU school of business administration.



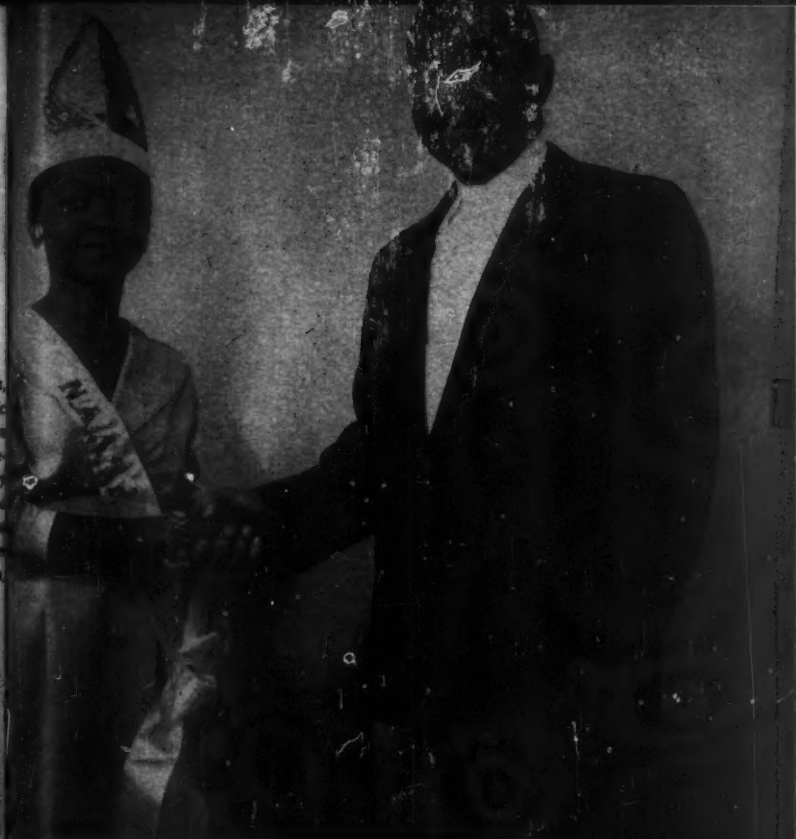
Jane Matilda Bolin, judge of the Domestic Relations Court in New York City, receives an honorary LL.D. degree at the 103rd commencement exercises of Western College for Women, Oxford, Ohio.

"NAACP QUEEN" in the Saginaw county, Michigan, branch's fight for freedom contest is being congratulated by R. N. Barbour, chairman of the branch public relations committee. Branch success in reaching its quota was due to Rev. Roosevelt Austin who served as chairman of the fight-for-freedom jury Committee.

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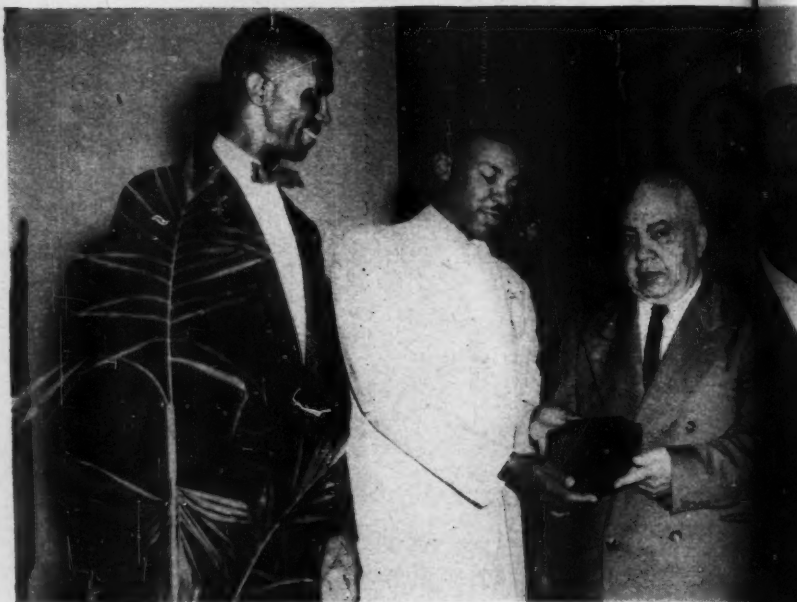


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and
IT'S FIGHT IS ITS FIGHT



ORANGEBURG, South Carolina, branch leaders present Rev. J. M. Hinton (A president of the South Carolina State Conference, with a plaque in recognition of his nineteen years of tireless service rendered to the people of South Carolina. The plaque was presented on May 18 in celebration of the May 17, 1954, U.S. Supreme Court public school decision by (from L) Rev. M. D. McCollom, THOMternity, organia president Orangeburg branch, and Eugene Montgomery.

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1958 NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner

Grand Ballroom, Hotel Roosevelt

Madison Avenue at 45th St., New York City



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1954, U.S. THOMAS WHIBBY (L), Founder of the Epsilon Nu Delta Mortician's Fraternity, presents a \$500.00 check for a paid-up NAACP life membership for his organization to Lucille Black, NAACP membership secretary, in the presence of D. F. Purnell of Houston, Texas, national president of ENDMF.

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Book Reviews

JOURNALISTIC LITERATURE

The Southern Wild. A novel by Ruth Chatterton. Garden City: Doubleday & Co., 1958. 487 pp. \$4.50.

Black as Night. A novel by David N. Nern. Boston: Beacon Press, 1958. 261 pp. \$3.95.

None So Blind. A novel by Lee Bergman. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1958. 182 pp. \$3.00.

Our Kind of People. A novel by Jack Dillon. New York: Ballantine Books, 1958. 313 pp. \$3.95.

It is to be expected that the volume of journalistic literature dealing with race relations should increase in quantity at a time when the old social patterns and the easy assumptions which lie behind them are breaking. Yet, despite the sincerity and effort put into three of the four novels here under consideration, the truth of current events is much greater than the fiction they evoke.

Ruth Chatterton's ambitious effort to read meaning into Blake's now anachronistic and condescending poem about a little black boy comes off as a sluggish and sprawling hodgepodge of pointless discussion. Set against a

background purportedly representing the Old South through one of its crumbling, estate-encumbered families (the Merediths of Merryoaks), it is a wordy exercise in contrived matching of skins and social levels. Perhaps the most unconvincing of its many, meaningless stereotypes is Matt Johnson, good, young, educated Southern Negro who endures everything because he understands all.

Miss Chatterton is more effective when she deals with the primitive love between a poor white boy and the daughter of Ellen Meredith, Christalinda, a Caldwell-flavored affair which the authoress maneuvers in such a way it almost draws the proverbial rope around Matt's enduring neck. *The Southern Wild* teems with character one meets in superficial fiction. Miss Chatterton's inclination to trade upon myth and superstition is most laughable when she undertakes to explain the Negro:

Colored people are night people. In spite of their superstitions about 'ha'ants' and black cats, they fear the night far less than most white people. It may be that night makes their color less conspicuous than the sunlight does; or it may be that the darkness has a quality of friendliness for them. Perhaps it is

possible that the primeval memory of the black man reverts to the need for protection which night in the dark jungles gave him. Whatever the reason, in a colored community Negroes are living and breathing, laughing and communicating with each other, while white communities sleep.

David N. Nern's *Black as Night* tells the story of a Southern Negro family whose plans to move North (to Detroit) are hurried by the rape of virtuous Daisy, sister to Willie and Earl, a pair of brothers representing two possible ways to face Southern reality.

Willie is consumed by hatred; but Earl, who is close to his white employer, the very good Mr. Andrew, is another apostle of the understanding heart through whom Mr. Nern explains the South. Too often, Mr. Nern stops telling the story and begins to offer counsel to Negroes. He also chooses to intrude his concern for snakes and other symbols of what he supposes to be "black magic" into his characterizations. He then rambles into picaresque rowdism in moving the male members of his cast from South to North by freight train.

The scenes of life in Detroit found in *Black as Night* are remarkable for their fantastic notions of what life in Paradise Valley is like. On the whole, *Black as Night* carries the strange sound of a collision of imaginary worlds in a fog of confusion.

None So Blind, a first novel by Lee Bergman, has to do with what happens in Stokesville when a young Negro inherits a farm his Southern neighbors are determined he shall not live on. The heir, Jed Davis, is eventually murdered (and in a manner which closely parallels events in the case of Emmet Till), whereupon Peter Hodson, who witnesses the murder, is subsequently set against his father, Fred, the leading lawyer and ex-mayor of Stokes-

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ville who is hired to defend the killers. *None So Blind* presents a tragedy without the usual apologetics, but it sheds no new light on Southern folk and their customs.

On the other hand, *Our Kind of People*, by Jack Dillon, is a sharp and incisive treatment of the race problem, Northern style, as it relates particularly to housing. It probes unsparingly, concentrating on the minds of rich and middleclass white citizenry in their reaction to the sudden presence of a Negro family in their community. In so doing it wrestles effectively with the problem of group responsibility.

Ray Henderson, a young engineer, inherits sixty thousand dollars, a bounty which enables him to buy out of the ghetto and clear the runaround tactics of subtle realtors. He chooses to move into the elegant atmosphere of Number 41, Gordon Avenue. (This is a

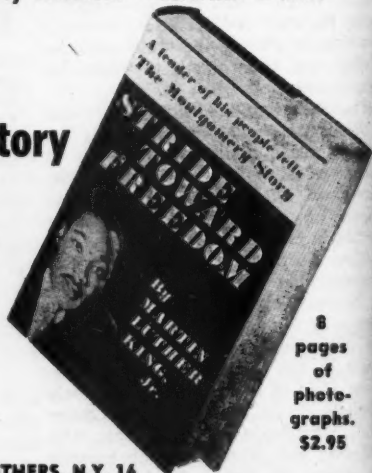
station which Nancy Goff, a pathetic little social climber, has not arrived at either by marriage or success) And on one side of him lives Harvey Greener, banker and son of a banker, who thought little of people who didn't have money; on the other lives Mike Gage, a tough, crude, but realistic construction company owner whose son, Bill, holds to liberal convictions. What follows from this is a forceful picture of how the strong undercurrent of social tyranny in the American open society tends to fix the economic and social status of the Negro.

The politically influential pillars ensclosed on Gordon Avenue rally around the fact that the Hendersons have defied their gentlemen's agreement and institute a pressure campaign to get them out of the neighborhood. A telephone call by Mike Gage sends a man up to Ray Henderson's new house

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pathetic to turn off the water. A check on family connections leads to the firing of Edgar Henderson, Ray's father, who happens to be the kind of highly competent Negro first who sees himself as the only and last.

The firing of the elder Henderson brings Mr. Dillon's novel to its real turning point, for even these Yankees, given to Machiavellian Babbitry, are moved to question the justice of making Ray's father suffer because of his son. Mr. Dillon could have omitted the mob scene à la Cicero, Illinois, which he has constructed as a crucible to bring out the basic integrity in Mike Gage, particularly, and George Harper, the Gordon Avenue resident who always held a latent respect for Ray Henderson because he recognized in Ray's offer to sell the house at a forty thousand dollar profit something he knew to be his own language.

Mr. Dillon's novel is all the more commendable because it centers the malaise of racial prejudice where it rightly belongs: in the insufficient personality structures of its individual victims. He is detached and trenchant because he sees quite through the pretensions of people as much: Arnold Maxim, the slick and hungry little Negro lawyer who saw in affiliating with the NAACP a chance to make a name for himself, is as inexcusable as the equally venal Bert Hecht, who turns the hatred he might well have had for himself upon Negroes. The hero of *Our Kind of People* is the Rev. Ralph Morris, a Negro minister and moderator, but perhaps sharing this honor is Roger Pearson, the white liberal who "knew what being nothing was like, and felt a kind of kinship for anybody who was in trouble."

Jack Dillon's novel is evidence that he has thought through what the other novels here have merely talked about.

HENRY F. WINSLOW

MORDANT SATIRE

BOOTSIE AND OTHERS: A Selection of Cartoons by Ollie Harrington. Introduction by Langston Hughes. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1938. \$3.50.

There is the cartoonist who is social commentator, who amuses by giving vivid and entertaining commentary upon contemporary problems. Mr. Harrington, whose Bootsie cartoon appears weekly in the *Pittsburgh Courier*, is this type of cartoonist and one of the best now functioning in America. He confines his subjects to the ordinary problems of ordinary Negroes and the ironic aspects of Negro-white relations. "The trials and tribulations of Bootsie and his friends," explains Mr. Hughes, "are typical of the trials and tribulations of the average Negro from Lenox Avenue in Harlem or Hastings Street in Detroit to Central Avenue in Los Angeles or Rampart in New Orleans—woman problems, pocketbook problems, landlady problems, and race problems are the same."

Mr. Harrington's work is marked by great facility in presenting the ridiculous side of American race relations and the humorous aspect of Negro life. Look, for example, at the two colored youngsters parachuting to earth under cover of a paratrooper escort: "No, I ain't scared. But you gotta admit, this is a hell of a way to get a education!" Then there is the grim mockery of two Negro tots walking to school under the bayonet-canopy of soldiers: "Goodness, gracious, Gaither. You reckon these fools expect us to run through this

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hassle every day an' do our homework too?" Mr. Harrington scores a good point on unlawful police entry with a gaping hole a husband has just sawed behind his front door: "Now look, Baby, don't come tellin' me I'm crazy. I'm just gettin' tired of the way these big fat ofay policemen is breakin' down folks's doors and jumping in all snarlin' and growlin'!"

Occasionally his wit can be devastating. There is his drawing of two children looking at a robin from the back window of a tenement: "Oooh look, Sis, a robin red breast, and it must be spring. Do you reckon Uncle Bootsie was lying when he said spring comes three weeks earlier over 'cross town where the white folks live?"

Mr. Harrington obtains his effects simply, much after the manner of Rowlandson or Gillray. He suggests the mood and the setting with such background detail as garments on a reel-clothesline, a half-empty whiskey bottle, an enlarged family portrait on the wall, a stringless shoe under the bed, a box of Duz in the bathroom, or a garbage-littered sidewalk. The 90 cartoons in *Bootsie and Others* offer gay humor, pleasant irony, and fancy and imagination as well as bitter mockery. Mr. Harrington's *Bootsie* is genuine social criticism.

J.W.I.

African Sculpture. By Ladislav Segy. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1958. 210 pp. \$2.00.

A fine piece of book production with thirty-four pages of introduction and 170 plates reproducing African sculpture. When first discovered some sixty years ago, African art was regarded as ethnographic specimens or exotica without esthetic value. Vlaminck and the Fauves changed this to the extent of making African art fashionable for at least thirty years. Today Negro-African

art is accepted, appreciated, and studied with the same seriousness that art lovers apply to any other great art. For those not already acquainted with Negro-African art, Mr. Segy's book is a good introduction.

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Banking economist Luther in his
Ethiopia Today has attempted to pre-
sent a kind of bird's-eye view of this
mountainous African country, where he
spent six years working for the State

Bank, as it was and is. Admitting an
unavoidable economic emphasis he
covers briefly its geography, climate,
history, society, religion, culture, gov-
ernment, finance, agriculture, trade,
commerce, banking, industry, and pres-
ent development, adding a section on
the federated state of Eritrea and sum-
ming all up in a concluding chapter.
Like so many Westerners who go to
Africa and are unable to overcome
their personal prejudice for Western
patterns, Mr. Luther mars the value
of his monograph through a most un-
objective analysis of aspects of Ethio-
pian society and culture which he is
not qualified to comment upon. No one
disputes the underdeveloped state of the
Ethiopian economy, or the increasing
but still narrowness of its relationship
with the outside world. But the author
is to be strongly condemned for his
lack of general knowledge and plain
ineptness in being so foolhardy as to
make such generalizations as the fol-
lowing: Ethiopians "have contributed
absolutely nothing to the culture of the
world;" they "will not readily adopt
even the most obvious improvements,"
and "are not adept at creative thinking
and independent study."

Since information about contempo-
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a pity the author was unable to write
about the place in a calm and dis-
passionate manner, leaving out personal
judgements and submerging his per-
sonal pique and frustration with con-
ditions there that must have affected
him directly. His overview of its history
is brief but good, and the discussion
of economic matters appears to be well
done. But these have been offset by an
emotional outpouring in other parts that
makes it impossible to recommend the
volume, unless it is read with a cautious
eye and its findings held in abeyance
until more reliable and objectively an-
alyzed sources are made available.

HUGH H. SMYTHE

Thurgood Marshall, of the NAACP Legal Education and Defense Fund, Inc., is interviewed by newsmen after arguing, on August 28, the integration case in the Supreme Court, which met in special session on Little Rock integration problem.

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Helen Greiff
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California: Stanford University Press,
1958. VII+158 pp. \$4.00.

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alyzed sources are made available.

HUGH H. SMYTHE

Thurgood Marshall, of the NAACP Legal Education and Defense Fund, Inc., is interviewed by newsmen after arguing, on August 28, the integration case in the Supreme Court, which met in special session on Little Rock integration problem.

AP Wirephoto



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